

## History of Ever Ready Circle 1889 or 70

One Sunday in the summer of 1889, following the Church Service at the Methodist Church in Shelburne, the late Charles Lee Tracy, who was here from New York City for his vacation told a group of young ladies of ~~an~~ organization <sup>that</sup> Mrs. Bottome had started. The Order was Daughters of the King or Kings Daughters.

His account of it interested and impressed the ladies so much that they very soon met in Miss Belle Havens Dress Making rooms over the Tracy store.

There our Circle was organized under the name of "Ever Ready".

Their motto which has become so familiar to us was:

- 1 Look up, and not down;
- 2 ~~Look up and not in~~ Look forward and not backward;
- 3 ~~Look out and not in, and~~
- 4 Lend a hand. "In His Name."

Their meetings were held semi-monthly at their homes. The time aside from the business meeting was spent in sewing or enjoying an educational program.

Money was raised by holding sales, plays, dinners and silver teas. In the summer ice cream was sold Sat. evenings.

A few of those first members are still living.

Miss Belle Havens of Jericho  
Mrs. M. C. Havens Newburyport Mass.

Mrs. Mattie Pearsons Norton Essex Junction  
Mrs. Bertha Hodskins Pearsons Burlington.

Some of the early workers who have departed but are remembered by many here were:

Mrs. Stoddard, Mrs. Tracy, Mrs. Macomber, Mrs. Irish, Mrs. Collamer, Mrs. Bissonette, Mrs. Thompson, Mrs. Bacon and Mrs. Nash.

Sometimes a few have been responsible for keeping the Circle active, other times a large number have made it easy for all.

We have tried to remember the sick with fruit, flowers, books and games. The needy have been given food and clothing.

During the last <sup>few</sup> two years our special project has been working for the King's Slughters Home in St. Albans which was opened this Fall.

Any one interested in the Home may get information from Mrs. Clyde Sturlburt one of the directors.

Our membership now is 45. I wonder if these members would have the courage to carry on with an attendance of five and collection of 5¢.

Such was the case many times 40 years ago but with real determination and assistance Mrs. Bissonette, Mrs. Stoddard, Mrs. Irish, Mrs. Haumon and a few others continued the good work.

It is interesting to know that one of our members Mrs. <sup>deceased</sup> Gebhardt, in 1889 resided in Fordham, N. Y. and went to the little

white Methodist Church there where Rev Samuel Bottome was the Rector.

Mrs. Bottome organized the Order of King's Slayers and Mrs. Gebhardt joined that 1st Circle of King's Slayers organized.

May we always remember the spirit of our early workers and always

- 1 Look up and not down;
- 3 Look ~~out~~ and not in.
- 2 Look forward and not backward
- ~~Look out and not in, and~~
- 4 Lend a Hand. "In His name".

(Written by Mrs. Leo Lusk)

The Treas. book has dues of \$1.00 pd by each member in 1890.

The By Laws of the "King's Slayers Society" of Shelburne is dated 1892.